

# Senate Bill 551

Sponsored by Senator DEMBROW (Pre-session filed.)

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Directs Higher Education Coordinating Commission to develop and implement pilot program to assist foster youth transitioning from community college to public university. Establishes criteria for pilot program.

Authorizes issuance of lottery bonds to finance programs developed under pilot program to assist foster youth transitioning from community college to public university. Creates Foster Youth Promise Support Program Fund. Continuously appropriates moneys in fund to Higher Education Coordinating Commission. Directs commission to use moneys in fund to finance programs developed under pilot program to assist foster youth transitioning from community college to public university.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to support programs for students receiving foster youth tuition waiver; and declaring an  
3 emergency.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, "Foster Youth Promise student" means a student**  
6 **enrolled in a community college or a public university listed in ORS 352.002 who is entitled**  
7 **to a waiver of all tuition and fees under ORS 350.300.**

8 **(2) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall develop and implement a pilot**  
9 **program to assist Foster Youth Promise students transitioning from a community college**  
10 **to a public university.**

11 **(3) The pilot program must:**

12 **(a) Be implemented in each community college and public university that has existing**  
13 **support programs for Foster Youth Promise students; and**

14 **(b) Develop and implement additional support programs for Foster Youth Promise stu-**  
15 **dents, including but not limited to:**

16 **(A) Facilitating public university orientations tailored to Foster Youth Promise students;**

17 **(B) Developing mentorship programs for Foster Youth Promise students following**  
18 **matriculation into a public university;**

19 **(C) Encouraging faculty at public universities to identify opportunities for Foster Youth**  
20 **Promise students to assist with research and other special projects; and**

21 **(D) Developing other types of programs and strategies to assist Foster Youth Promise**  
22 **students.**

23 **(4) The commission shall:**

24 **(a) Analyze the existing support programs offered to Foster Youth Promise students by**  
25 **community colleges and public universities;**

26 **(b) Coordinate alignment of the existing support programs offered to Foster Youth**  
27 **Promise students between community colleges and public universities; and**

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 (c) Coordinate private fund-raising efforts to provide Foster Youth Promise students with  
2 additional financial support.

3 **SECTION 2.** The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall report on the efficacy  
4 of the pilot program established under section 1 of this 2017 Act, in the manner provided in  
5 ORS 192.245, to the committees of the Legislative Assembly related to higher education at  
6 least once during each of five consecutive regular sessions of the Legislative Assembly, be-  
7 ginning with the 2018 regular session of the Legislative Assembly.

8 **SECTION 3.** (1) As used in this section and section 4 of this 2017 Act, "Foster Youth  
9 Promise student" has the meaning given that term in section 1 of this 2017 Act.

10 (2) The Legislative Assembly finds that assisting Foster Youth Promise students who  
11 intend to transition from a community college to a public university as part of the pilot  
12 program established by section 1 of this 2017 Act will:

13 (a) Help Foster Youth Promise students succeed in their educational endeavors;

14 (b) Positively impact the educational and career prospects of both current and future  
15 Foster Youth Promise students; and

16 (c) Strengthen the efficacy of the tuition waiver provided to current and former foster  
17 youth under ORS 350.300.

18 (3) The factors described in subsection (2) of this section will encourage and promote  
19 economic development within the State of Oregon, and issuance of lottery bonds to finance  
20 the pilot program is therefore an appropriate use of state lottery funds under Article XV,  
21 section 4, of the Oregon Constitution, and ORS 461.510.

22 (4) At the request of the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, the State Treasurer  
23 is authorized to issue lottery bonds pursuant to ORS 286A.560 to 286A.585, for the biennium  
24 beginning July 1, 2017, in an amount not to exceed \$\_\_\_ million, for the purpose described  
25 in subsection (5) of this section, plus an additional amount to be estimated by the State  
26 Treasurer for payment of bond-related costs incurred by the commission and the State  
27 Treasurer.

28 (5) Net proceeds of lottery bonds issued pursuant to this section must be deposited in the  
29 Foster Youth Promise Support Program Fund established in section 4 of this 2017 Act in an  
30 amount sufficient to provide \$\_\_ million in net proceeds and interest earnings for disburse-  
31 ment to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to fund programs to assist Foster  
32 Youth Promise students transitioning from community colleges to public universities as part  
33 of the pilot program established under section 1 of this 2017 Act.

34 (6) Bond-related costs incurred by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission and  
35 the State Treasurer for the lottery bonds authorized by this section must be paid from the  
36 gross proceeds of the lottery bonds and from allocations for the purposes of ORS 286A.576  
37 (1)(c).

38 **SECTION 4.** (1) The Foster Youth Promise Support Program Fund is established, sepa-  
39 rate and distinct from the General Fund. The moneys in the Foster Youth Promise Support  
40 Program Fund and the interest earnings on moneys in the fund are continuously appropri-  
41 ated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission for the purposes described in sub-  
42 section (2) of this section. The fund consists of moneys deposited in the fund under section  
43 3 of this 2017 Act, and may include other fees, revenues or other income transferred into the  
44 fund by the Legislative Assembly for payment of costs incurred to establish the Foster Youth  
45 Promise Support Program Fund.

1           **(2) Moneys in the fund are available for immediate distribution to the Higher Education**  
2 **Coordinating Commission to:**

3           **(a) Pay the costs incurred to fund programs to assist Foster Youth Promise students**  
4 **transitioning from community colleges to public universities as part of the pilot program**  
5 **established under section 1 of this 2017 Act.**

6           **(b) Pay bond-related costs, as defined in ORS 286A.560.**

7           **SECTION 5. This 2017 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**  
8 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2017 Act takes effect**  
9 **on its passage.**

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